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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/629,171

07/28/2003

Zhen-Da Hung

7171

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EXAMINER

CAZAN, LIVIU RADU

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3729

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/27/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/629,171

Applicant(s)

HUNG ET AL.

Examiner

LIVIOUS R. CAZAN

Art Unit

3729

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 29 February 2008 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.
NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. ☒ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): See Continuation Sheet.

6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: 9 and 13

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.

12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____

13. ☐ Other: _____

/A. Dexter Tugbang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3729

Continuation of 5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): 102(b) on claims 10-11 and 20, 102(e) on claims 1-4, 9-11, and 14-18; 103(a) on claims 12 and 19; 112 1st on claim 12; 112 2nd on claims 2-4, 12, and 15.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Since claim 20 was only rejected using the Howard reference while claim 9 was rejected using both Hwang and Howard, and claim 9 now recites the limitations previously found in claim 20, Applicant's arguments regarding claim 9 as rejected using Hwang will not be discussed, since that rejection has been overcome by this reply.

Regarding claim 9 as rejected using Howard, Applicant argues that if the pull tab 11 is not deemed a part of the connection portion, it cannot form the claimed loop configuration surrounding the cable retaining portion.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. See Fig. 7. The two plates 12 and 13 are linked by the connection portion as follows: starting with say plate 12, it is connected to the pull tab 11 by a connection portion, which is in turn connected to the plate 13 by another connection portion. Clearly, both connection portions are linked by the tab 11 between the two plates, this arrangement forming a loop configuration surrounding the cable retaining portion. As currently claimed, it is not required for the connection portion alone to form the loop configuration.

Regarding claim 13, Applicant argues in Hwang there is no hole such that the engaging portion and the fixing portion overlap each other and each defines a hole to form a passage for receiving and engaging with the mating portion of the electrical connector and that "the Examiner says nothing on it."

The examiner respectfully disagrees. See the Final Rejection, page 9, especially lines 4-7. The Examiner did address these limitations. For further clarification, Applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claim 13 does not recite each of the engaging portion and fixing portion having a hole. Rather, the claim merely requires that the engaging portion and the fixing portion each defines a hole, which could be the same hole. Hole 704 is defined by the fixing portion 702 since the fixing portion defines the depth of the hole, and engaging portion 727 defines the hole since the neck 727 extending therefrom defines the minimum diameter of the hole/passage. This allows a mating portion of the electrical connector to be received and engaged. The current claim language does not set forth language that specifically requires the hole being the passage, and the passage receiving and engaging the connector, it merely has to somehow contribute to this taking place.